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religious crisis as more of an intellectual than of a mystical character is entirely new and wholly original, but certainly it has never been propounded in such a definite way and so well harmonized with the whole of Augustine's intellectual and spiritual career, in a vigorous synthesis of his life and his theology. Being a work of synthesis, there is no room for details in the book. As for the synthesis itself, like all syntheses, it has a personal element, which, however, does not at all diminish the objective value of the study.

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THE BEGINNINGS OF MODERN EUROPE (1250-1458). EPHRAIM EMERTON.
Ginn & Co. 1918. Pp. xiv, 550. Maps. \$1.80.

The publication of this new volume by Professor Emerton is an event of great interest to a host of his students and friends. And his students include a very large proportion of all those who have studied history in the last generation, not only at Harvard but throughout the United States. For it is now thirty years since the appearance of his *Introduction to the Middle Ages*. The older of the present generation of professors welcomed this with admiration as the best book on the subject, and used it in their classes. Many of the younger professors now in service began their serious study of history with this *Introduction*. A few years later his *Mediaeval Europe* was published, and now we have the third volume in the series.

The author has had a more difficult task than in either of the preceding volumes. In the first the contrast and contact of Roman and Teuton and the influence of the Christian Church dictated the treatment. In the second, "we see Europe wholly under the sway of two vast ideas, feudalism and the Roman Church system." Very different "is the subject of our present study. It is a chapter in human history of which no brief general description can be given. It is impossible to point to any peculiar institutions that govern its life. As we try to unfold the tangled thread of its history, we seem to find only confusion and disorder." But under Professor Emerton's masterly analysis the seeming confusion is straightened out, and we see the orderly evolution of the forces which controlled the period. In order to grasp the important lines of thought the Preface, from which these quotations have been taken, must be carefully read. It is so closely packed with matter that any attempt at condensation is futile. It is summed up, in part, in the following sentence: "This

then will be the natural thread of our narrative: the working out, consciously in literature and unconsciously through social and political conflict, of the idea that individuals or bodies of men voluntarily united in a common interest might, if they pleased, speak and act for themselves." It is a Preface to be studied and pondered over; it suggests questions; it arouses dissent; it compels admiration.

The book begins with a discussion of the principle of the modern State, illustrated by the policies of Frederic II and Louis IX. The treatment of the Constitution of Frederic is especially noteworthy; it is novel and far more informing than any other brief account of this subject. In the chapters on the New Empire and the New Papacy the various lines of policy and the changing constitutional forms are compared and contrasted. Possibly Professor Emerton's method of treatment can be best seen in his chapter on the rise of the middle class. This begins with a statement of the revival of the nominalistic teaching, in opposition to the prevailing realism of the Middle Ages. The new teaching is illustrated by Ockham's *Dialogus* and Marsiglio of Padua's *Defensor Pacis*. This introduction binds together the treatment in the four following sections: on the origin and emancipation of Switzerland, the importance of the merchants and the various leagues of cities in Germany, the democratic movement in Flanders, and the Estates General in France. This is followed by a chapter on the Italian Republics to 1300, where the real elements of Italian unity are made clear. Again, the importance of the middle class is brought out in the summary of the results of the Hundred Years' War. Here the author points out that "in spite of the drain of continuous warfare the productive power of the country was undiminished." The period "was big with the new constructive ideas." "The great cities were growing to be the mainstay of the national principle." Space forbids any attempt to describe the remaining chapters, but mention must be made of the summary of the permanent gains in the conciliar period. These illustrated the general advance in democracy and the emancipation of the nations from papal control.

Professor Emerton hints in the Preface that a volume on the Reformation will follow. This is indeed good news. It must be remembered in judging as to the omissions from this volume. It may well explain why the two chapters on the Renaissance are so limited in scope. Among the subjects which are omitted are the geographical discoveries; the great inventions, except for a bare mention of the printing press; and of course other topics which form the natural background for an explanation of the Reformation.

The maps are unsatisfactory; the execution is poor, the color scheme is not clear, and most of them are too small. The map of the ecclesiastical provinces of Europe is cut to fit the volume by omitting almost all of Spain, one-half of Italy, and other outlying portions. On this map "Mailand" is used for Milan. The map of the Hansa does not extend far enough north to include Wisby.

Throughout the volume the analyses of conditions and summaries of results are masterly. There are many statements which the thoughtful student will remember and will use in forming a judgment as to other periods of history. Those who are impatient with the course of events in Russia may well consider Professor Emerton's statement about the fate of Etienne Marcel: "Like every leader of revolutions he was expected to show in a moment results that need generations of training to accomplish." The temptation is strong to quote many another passage, but any selections would merely reflect the reviewer's own particular interests. Students will profit by this volume in proportion to their maturity and ability to appreciate scholarly work.

DANA C. MUNRO.

PRINCETON, N. J.

AMERICAN CIVIL CHURCH LAW. Columbia Studies in History, Economics, and Public Law. CARL ZOLLMAN. Longmans, Green, & Co. 1917. Pp. 473. Paper, \$3.50; cloth, \$4.00.

This is a useful book upon an important topic not elsewhere so well treated. Books on ecclesiastical law, the internal law of the Church, are not uncommon; but the far more practically important external law of the Church, the law that regulates its legal obligations, its rights of property and contract, its capacity and powers, has not before been brought together into a single volume.

The author has undertaken a difficult task. The Church was coeval with the American colonies; but its ways, its organization, its relation to the governing authority, differed radically in the different colonies. Its disestablishment in the various colonies was a process lasting for two centuries. The differing polities of the prevailing sects in the various colonies led to peculiar legal views of church organization. A law which deals primarily with a Congregational church must differ materially from another which is concerned with a Presbyterian or Episcopalian body. As a result of this variety of materials, the laws of our several states at the beginning of our national life were divergent. The tendency toward uniformity of